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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

Draft report of the Fifth Committee

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1996, the General Assembly decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 7th to 9th, 11th to 15th, 17th, 20th, 23rd, 25th, 32nd, 33rd, 39th, 40th, and 42nd to 46th meetings, on 15, 16, 18, 22 to 25, 29 and 31 October, 4, 7, 8, 25 and 27 November, 11, 13 and 15 to 17 December 1996.

3. The comments and observations made in the course of the discussion of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/51/SR.7-9, 11-15, 17, 20, 23, 25, 32, 33, 39, 40 and 42-46).

4. In accordance with the criteria for use of the contingency fund annexed to General Assembly resolution 42/211 of 21 December 1987, the Fifth Committee, at its 46th meeting, on 17 December, considered a consolidated statement of all programme budget implications and revised estimates that were subject to the criteria for the use of the contingency fund. The consolidated amount fell within the available balance of the contingency fund. The Committee therefore proceeded to approve the required amounts under the relevant sections of the programme budget.

5. Section II of the present report contains a summary of the recommendations of the Fifth Committee during the fifty-first session of the General Assembly on the revised estimates submitted by the Secretary-General and on the programme budget implications of resolutions adopted by the Assembly, either on the recommendation of its Main Committees or in respect of items considered in plenary.

6. Section III of the report provides a summary of the special subjects considered by the Fifth Committee, which led to the adoption of specific decisions to be recommended to the General Assembly.

7. The recommendations of the Fifth Committee are contained in section IV of the present report.

II. PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

8. In its resolutions 50/215 A and B of 23 December 1995, the General Assembly approved budget appropriations for the biennium 1996-1997 in the amount of $2,608,274,000 and income estimates in the amount of $471,401,700.

9. Recommendations of the Fifth Committee during the current session of the General Assembly on revised estimates submitted by the Secretary-General, as well as on the programme budget implications of resolutions adopted by the Assembly under items considered by other Main Committees or in respect of items considered in plenary, have resulted in net increases in the approved level of

appropriations in the amount of $4,993,100 and a net reduction in the approved income estimates in the amount of $23,664,100.

10. The revised estimates of expenditure and income approved by the Fifth Committee and the financial implications of resolutions recommended by other Main Committees and subsequently by the General Assembly are indicated, by expenditure and income section, below:

Sections	Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 50/215 A and B	Increase/ (decrease) approved at the current session	Total
	(United States dollars)		
A. Expenditure sections			
1. Overall policy-making, direction and coordination	40 348 200		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(720 500)	
(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(278 500)	
Total	40 348 200	(999 000)	39 349 200
2. Political affairs	60 989 500		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(1 367 000)	
(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(986 100)	
Total	60 989 500	(2 353 100)	58 636 400
3. Peacekeeping operations and special missions	102 868 200		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		18 571 100	
(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(276 800)	
(c) The situation in Central America: Central American peace process (A/C.5/51/32 and A/C.5/51/SR.39)		341 300	
(d) The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (A/C.5/51/40 and A/C.5/51/SR.44)		3 100 000	
(e) The situation in Central America: MINUGUA (1 January to 31 March 1997) (A/C.5/51/41 and A/C.5/51/SR.44)		7 102 400	

Sections	Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 50/215 A and B	Increases (decreases) approved at the current session	Total
	United States dollars		
3. The situation in Central America: United Nations political presence in El Salvador (1 January to 30 June 1997) (A/C.5/51/42 and A/C.5/51/SR.44)		458 700	
4. The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti: International Civilian Mission to Haiti (1 January to 31 July 1997) (A/C.5/51/43 and A/C.5/51/SR.44)		3 400 000	
Total	102 888 200	32 637 350	135 525 550
4. Office of the Secretary-General	4 785 500		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/18, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 44)		474 100	
(b) United Nations common system: recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission		50 000	
Total	4 785 500	524 100	5 309 600
5. International Court of Justice	21 339 600		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/18, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 44)		(1 278 700)	
(b) United Nations common system: recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission		75 800	
Total	21 339 600	(1 353 700)	19 985 900
6. Legal activities	31 605 400		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/18, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 44)		(1 032 400)	
(b) United Nations common system: recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission		318 500	
Total	31 605 400	(1 350 900)	30 254 500

Sections	Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 50/215 A and B	Increase/ (decrease) approved at the current session	Total
	(United States dollars)		
7A. Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development	44 516 700		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		1 900 600	
(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(479 800)	
Total	44 516 700	2 380 400	41 [illegible]
7B. Africa: critical economic situation, recovery and development	4 305 100		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		196 100	
(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		44 600	
Total	4 305 100	40 700	4 [illegible]
8. Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis	48 612 100		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(817 200)	
(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(518 700)	
Total	48 612 100	(1 435 900)	47 [illegible]
9. Department for Development Support and Management Services	26 556 000		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		504 400	
(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(249 000)	
Total	26 556 000	255 400	26 811 400

Sections	Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 50/215 A and B	Increase/ (decrease) approved at the current session	Total
	(United States dollars)		
10A. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	121 925 300		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(10 633 100)	
(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(1 065 900)	
Total	121 925 300	(11 699 000)	110 226 300
10B. International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT	21 642 000		
First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		684 600	
Total	21 642 000	684 600	22 326 600
11. United Nations Environment Programme	9 512 200		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(1 170 700)	
(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(110 400)	
Total	9 512 200	(1 281 100)	8 231 100
12. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)	13 059 600		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(1 181 600)	
(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(146 000)	
Total	13 059 600	(1 327 600)	11 731 700
13. Crime control	5 254 600		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(512 400)	

Sections		Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 50/215 A and B	Increase/ (decrease) approved at the current session	Total
		(United States dollars)		
	(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(48 300)	
	(c) Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council at its organizational and substantive sessions of 1996 (A/C.5/51/20 and A/C.5/51/SR.32 and 33)		501 000	
	Total	5 254 600	(59 700)	5 194 900
14.	International drug control	17 344 100		
	(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(1 822 700)	
	(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(143 700)	
	(c) Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council at its organizational and substantive sessions of 1996 (A/C.5/51/20 and A/C.5/51/SR.32 and 33)		595 200	
	(d) International action to combat drug abuse and illicit production and trafficking (A/C.5/51/36 and A/C.5/51/SR.39 and 40)		222 100	
	Total	17 344 100	(1 149 100)	16 195 000
15.	Economic Commission for Africa	87 845 600		
	(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(4 641 900)	
	(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(842 800)	
	Total	87 845 600	(5 484 700)	82 360 900

Section	Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 50/215 A and B	Increase/ decrease approved at the current session	Total
	United States dollars		
16. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	44 179 400		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		1 567 [illegible]	
(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		479 600	
Total	44 179 400	1 [illegible] 000	47 [illegible]
17. Economic Commission for Europe	52 883 100		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(4 441 300)	
(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		435 100	
Total	52 883 100	(4 941 400)	47 941 700
18. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	88 327 200		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(5 256 500)	
(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(555 300)	
Total	88 327 200	(5 811 800)	82 515 400
19. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia	37 791 200		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(3 408 700)	
(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(339 200)	
Total	37 791 200	(3 647 900)	34 143 300

Section		Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 50/215 A and B	Increase/ (decrease) approved at the current session	Total
		(United States dollars)		
20.	Regular programme of technical cooperation	44 814 700		
	First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(7 418 800)	
	Total	44 814 700	(7 418 800)	37 395 900
21.	Human rights	52 987 600		
	(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(4 628 400)	
	(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(358 600)	
	Total	52 987 600	(4 987 000)	48 000 600
22.	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	54 318 500		
	(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(3 788 900)	
	(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(390 500)	
	Total	54 318 500	(4 179 400)	50 139 100
23.	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	22 643 000		
	(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(5 044 800)	
	(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(293 300)	
	Total	22 643 000	(5 338 100)	17 304 900
24.	Department of Humanitarian Affairs	21 039 300		
	(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(1 869 700)	

Section	Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 50/215 A and B	Increase/ (decrease) approved at the current session	Total
	(United States dollars)		
b. United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		214 100)	
Total	21 049 800	2 081 800)	18 968 000
27. Public information	137 658 000		
a. First performance report (A/C.5/51/18, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 44)		(4 368 800)	
b. United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(898 200)	
Total	137 658 000	(5 267 200)	132 390 800
28. Administration and management	960 885 100)		
a. First performance report (A/C.5/51/18, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 44)		40 796 100)	
b. United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(4 017 500)	
Total	960 885 100	44 803 600)	916 081 500
29. Jointly financed administrative activities	28 915 000		
a. First performance report (A/C.5/51/18, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 44)		(1 160 200)	
b. United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(271 000)	
Total	28 915 000	(1 431 200)	27 483 8
30. Special expenses	1 701 700)		
First performance report (A/C.5/51/18, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 44)		(451 400)	
Total	41 751 700	(451 400)	41 3

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Sections	Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 50/215 A and B	Increase/ (decrease) approved at the current session	Total
	(United States dollars)		
29. Office of Internal Oversight Services	15 716 500		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(920 400)	
(b) United Nations common system: recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission		188 200	
Total	15 716 500	(732 200)	14 984 300
30. Technological innovations	21 999 600		
First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(699 400)	
Total	21 999 600	(699 400)	21 300 200
31. Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	31 585 400		
First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(2 946 400)	
Total	31 585 400	(2 946 400)	28 639 000
32. Staff assessment	369 080 100		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		16 749 500	
(b) United Nations common system: recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission		(5 927 400)	
(c) The situation in Central America: Central American peace process (A/C.5/51/32 and A/C.5/51/SR.49)		60 800	
(d) The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (A/C.5/51/40 and A/C.5/51/SR.44		280 600	

Section	Amount approved by the General Assembly in the 1996/97 budget (A/51/215 A and B)	Increase/ decrease approved at the current session	Notes
	(United States dollars)		
(e) The situation in Central America: MINUGUA (1 January to 31 March 1997) (A/C.5/51/41 and A/C.5/51/SR.44)		886 100	
(f) The situation in Central America: United Nations political presence in El Salvador (1 January to 30 June 1997) (A/C.5/51/42 and A/C.5/51/SR.44)		68 200	
(g) The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti: International Civilian Mission to Haiti (1 January to 31 July 1997) (A/C.5/51/43 and A/C.5/51/SR.45)		265 400	
Total	569 240 100	20 799 500	589 [illegible]
(h) International Seabed Authority	1 808 200		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 47)		(65 500)	
(b) Budget of the International Seabed Authority for 1997 (A/C.5/51/21 and A/51/7/Add.2)		2 750 500	
Total	1 808 200	2 685 500	4 493 700
Total, expenditure estimates	2 712 265 200	(106 984 400)	2 605 280 800
Less: anticipated reductions to be confirmed by General Assembly	(103 991 200)	103 991 200	
Grand total, expenditure estimates (gross)	2 608 274 000	(2 993 200)	2 605 280 800
b. Income section			
1. Income from staff assessment	384 306 000		
(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(16 749 500)	
(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		(5 117 300)	

Section		Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 50/215 A and B	Increase/ (decrease) approved at the current session	Total
		(United States dollars)		
	(c) The situation in Central America: Central American peace process (A/C.5/51/32 and A/C.5/51/SR.39)		40 600	
	(d) The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (A/C.5/51/42 and A/C.5/51/SR.44)		282 600	
	(e) The situation in Central America: MINUGUA (1 January to 31 March 1997) (A/C.5/51/41 and A/C.5/51/SR.44)		506 200	
	(f) The situation in Central America: United Nations political presence in El Salvador (1 January to 30 June 1997) (A/C.5/51/42 and A/C.5/51/SR.44)		68 200	
	(g) The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti: International Civilian Mission to Haiti (1 January to 31 July 1997) (A/C.5/51/43 and A/C.5/51/SR.45)		365 800	
	Total	384 306 000	(20 809 400)	363 496 600
2.	General income	86 209 200		
	First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		(4 189 600)	
	Total	86 209 200	(4 189 600)	82 019 600
3.	Services to the public	886 500		
	(a) First performance report (A/C.5/51/38, A/51/7/Add.6 and A/C.5/51/SR.42, 43 and 46)		1 257 100	
	(b) United Nations common system (recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission)		77 800	
	Total	886 500	1 334 900	2 221 400
	Total, income estimates	471 401 700	(23 664 100)	447 737 600

11. At its 46th meeting, on 17 December, the Committee considered the revised estimates of expenditure and income to be recommended for approval by the General Assembly for the biennium 1996-1997, as well as the financing of the appropriations for the year 1997. The Committee took the following action:

(a) The Committee approved the revised budget appropriations for the biennium 1996-1997 (see para. 23, draft resolution II A);

(b) The Committee approved the revised income estimates for the biennium 1996-1997 (see para. 23, draft resolution II B);

(c) The Committee approved the draft resolution on the financing of the appropriations for the year 1996 (see para. 23, draft resolution II C).

III. CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL SUBJECTS

1. Revised estimates resulting from the resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council

12. The Committee considered this question at its 32nd and 33rd meetings, on 25 and 27 November. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/51/20). The report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions was presented orally by its Chairman at the 32nd meeting.

13. At its 33rd meeting, on 27 November, the Fifth Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the estimates of $501,000 under section 13, Crime control, and of $595,200 under section 14, International drug control, on the understanding that such additional appropriations as might be necessary would be determined in accordance with the procedures for the use and operation of the contingency fund, taking into account the results of the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 (see para. 23, draft resolution I A, sect. I).

2. Request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research resulting from the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute on the work programme of the Institute for 1997

14. The Committee considered this question at its 39th and 43rd meetings, on 11 and 13 December. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/51/33). The report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions was presented orally by its Chairman at the 39th meeting.

15. At its 43rd meeting, on 13 December, the Fifth Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/51/33) and of the recommendations thereon of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and approve a subvention of $213,000 for UNIDIR for 1997 (see para. 23, draft resolution I A, sect. II).

3. International Seabed Authority

16. The Committee considered this question at its 33rd and 46th meetings, on 27 November and 17 December. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/51/38) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/51/7/Add.6).

17. At its 46th meeting, on 17 December, the Vice-Chairman, Mr. Klaus D. Stein, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Seabed Authority" (A/C.5/51/L.39). At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/51/L.39 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution I A, sect. III).

4. First performance report

18. The Committee considered this question at its 42nd, 43rd and 46th meetings, on 12, 13 and 17 December. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/51/38) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/51/7/Add.6).

19. At its 46th meeting, on 17 December, the Vice-Chairman, Mr. Klaus D. Stein, introduced a draft resolution entitled "First performance report" (A/C.5/51/L.38). At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/51/L.38 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution I A, sect. IV).

5. Contingency fund

20. The Committee considered this question at its 46th meeting, on 17 December. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/51/44).

21. At the same meeting, the Fifth Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the General Assembly that it appropriate the required amounts, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General, and that it note that a balance of $15,358,200 would remain in the contingency fund (see para. 23, draft resolution I A, sect. V).

6. Implementation of resolutions 50/214 and 50/215

22. At its 46th meeting, on 17 December, the Fifth Committee considered draft resolution A/C.5/51/L.33, submitted by the Vice-Chairman. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/51/L.33 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution I B).

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

23. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997

A

The General Assembly

I

REVISED ESTIMATES RESULTING FROM THE RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

1. Takes note of the estimates of 501,000 United States dollars under section 13, Crime control, and of 595,200 dollars under section 14, International drug control, on the understanding that such additional appropriations as may be necessary will be determined in accordance with the procedures for the use and operation of the contingency fund, taking into account the results of the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997;[1]

II

REQUEST FOR A SUBVENTION TO THE UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR DISARMAMENT RESEARCH RESULTING FROM THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INSTITUTE ON THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE INSTITUTE FOR 1997

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General[2] and of the recommendations thereon of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and approves the subvention of 213,000 dollars for UNIDIR for 1997;

III

INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY

Recalling its resolution 48/263 of 28 July 1994, in which it decided to fund the administrative expenses of the International Seabed Authority until the end of the year following the year during which the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 entered into force,

Also recalling its resolution 50/214 of 23 December 1995, in which it made provision for the budget for 1996 of the International Seabed Authority,

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[1] A/51/7/Add.6.

[2] A/C.5/51/33.

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the budget of the International Seabed Authority for 1997,[3]

1. Approves the recommendation thereon of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report;[4]

2. Requests the International Seabed Authority to take all necessary action to ensure that its budget for 1997 is implemented with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

3. Authorizes the Secretary-General to provide conference services for the meetings of the International Seabed Authority to be held from 17 to 28 March and from 18 to 29 August 1997 from the resources available under section 26E, Conference Services, of the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997;[5]

4. Decides to make a provision of $2,750,500 for the International Seabed Authority for its administrative expenses in 1997 under section 33, International Seabed Authority, of the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997;

5. [Decides also that the provision for 1997 should be charged to the contingency fund.] or [Decides also that the provision under paragraph 3 above should be offset by reductions under section 31, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997.];

IV

FIRST PERFORMANCE REPORT

1. Takes note of the first performance report of the Secretary-General[6] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary questions;[7]

2. Reaffirms its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986;

3. Notes that, according to the first performance report, involuntary separations of staff have not been used in order to implement resolutions 50/231 and 50/232 of 7 June 1996;

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[3] A/C.5/51/21.

[4] A/51/7/Add.2.

[5] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/50/6/Rev.1).

[6] A/C.5/51/38.

4. Approves a net decrease of 5,580,200 dollars in the appropriations approved for the biennium 1996-1997, and a net decrease of 19,682,000 dollars in the estimates of income for the biennium 1996-1997, to be apportioned among expenditure and income sections as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General;

V

CONTINGENCY FUND

Notes that a balance of 15,358,200 dollars remains in the contingency fund.

B

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling its resolutions 50/214, in which it decided, inter alia, that the vacancy rate would be 6.4 per cent for both Professional and General Service posts, 50/215 and 50/216 of 23 December 1995 and 50/230 of 7 June 1996,

Also recalling the request made to the Secretary-General in paragraph 7 of section II of resolution 50/214 to present, as soon as possible, and no later than 31 March 1996, to the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, a report containing proposals of possible savings for its consideration and approval,

Reaffirming the role of the current intergovernmental process in reviewing the efficiency and reform of the programmes and activities and the need to avoid duplication,

Recognizing the need to integrate all elements of internal reviews of efficiency in the Secretariat,

Recognizing also the role of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts in management reforms and in ensuring adequate programme delivery and efficiency,

Regretting that the information requested by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on personnel- and programme-related issues, including, inter alia, whether consultants were hired to carry out work previously performed by staff on posts, was not provided,

Recalling its decision 50/506 of 17 September 1996,

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[1] A/C.5/50/57/Add.1.

[2] A/51/7/Add.1.

1. Reaffirms resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 42/211 of 21 December 1987;

2. Reaffirms also part VI of resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990, which relates to the involvement of different bodies in the budgetary process;

3. Reaffirms further the requirement of all Member States to fulfil their financial obligations as set out in the Charter of the United Nations promptly and in full;

4. Recognizes the detrimental effect of the withholding of assessed contributions on the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations;

5. Reaffirms that the authority to create, transfer and abolish posts under the regular budget is the prerogative of the General Assembly;

6. Recalls the authority of the Secretary-General as chief administrative officer, as provided for under Article 97 of the Charter;

7. Endorses the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[1] with the exception of the second sentence of paragraph 28 and subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

8. Expresses its concern that the report of the Secretary-General does not contain a clear indication of the extent to which the approved vacancy level of 6.4 per cent has been exceeded in order to reach the savings called for in resolution 50/214;

9. Reiterates its decision that savings in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 should not affect the full implementation of mandated programmes and activities;

10. Reiterates that any proposal to change mandated programmes and activities is subject to prior approval of the General Assembly, through the Fifth Committee and other relevant bodies;

11. Notes the assurances of the Secretary-General that he will not take any decision on the involuntary separation of staff members, including those on the redeployment list, to achieve savings in the context of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/214;

12. Requests the Secretary-General, in the light of General Assembly decision 50/506, to report during the resumed session of the Fifth Committee on the progress achieved in the placement of the staff on the redeployment list, taking into account their skills and experience;

13. Requests that the information requested by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report* be presented no later than 1 March 1997;

14. Requests the Secretary-General, in connection with paragraphs 25 to 31 of the report of the Advisory Committee, to report, through the Office of Internal Oversight Services, no later than 1 March 1997, on the use of consultants and associated contractual procedures in the United Nations during the calendar year 1996;

15. Also requests the Secretary-General to review the effect of vacant posts on programme delivery and to recommend, if appropriate, restoration of the funding of these posts in the context of the budget for the biennium 1998-1999;

16. Further requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary actions to avoid duplication of efficiency review procedures;

17. Requests the Secretary-General to integrate and harmonize, where appropriate, efficiency reviews, including those of the intergovernmental machinery with programme planning and budget reviews;

18. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to relevant intergovernmental bodies on the efficiency proposals which have programmatic and programme budget implications that require prior legislative approval;

19. Regrets that the programme performance report requested in paragraph 11, section II, of resolution 50/214 to be presented no later than the end of the fiftieth session has not been submitted;

20. Requests the Secretary-General to present no later than 1 March 1997 the above-mentioned programme performance report on the impact of approved savings measures on the implementation of mandated programmes and activities, and decides to consider it as a matter of priority during the first part of its resumed session;

21. Decides that no changes to the budget methodology or established budgetary procedures, practices and Financial Regulations can be implemented without prior review by and approval by the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in accordance with agreed budgetary procedures;

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997

A

Revised budget appropriations for the biennium 1996-1997

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the biennium 1996-1997 the amount of 2,608,274,000 United States dollars appropriated by it in its resolution 50/215 A of 23 December 1995 shall be adjusted by 4,993,100 dollars as follows:

Expenditure sections	Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/215 A	Increase/ (decrease)	Revised appropriation
	(United States dollars)		
PART I. OVERALL POLICY-MAKING DIRECTION AND COORDINATION			
1. Overall policy-making, direction and coordination	40 348 200	(999 000)	39 349 200
Total, part I	40 348 200	(999 000)	39 349 200
PART II. POLITICAL AFFAIRS			
2. Political affairs	60 989 500	(2 053 100)	58 936 400
3. Peacekeeping operations and special missions	102 868 200	32 637 100	135 505 300
4. Outer space affairs	4 705 500	(529 100)	4 176 400
Total, part II	168 563 200	30 054 900	198 618 100
PART III. INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE AND LAW			
5. International Court of Justice	21 339 600	(1 353 700)	19 985 900
6. Legal activities	31 605 400	(1 350 900)	30 254 500
Total, part III	52 945 000	(2 704 600)	50 240 400
PART IV. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT			
7A. Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development	44 318 700	(2 380 400)	41 938 300
7B. Africa: critical economic situation, recovery and development	4 305 100	60 700	4 365 800
8. Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis	48 612 100	(1 335 900)	47 276 200
9. Department for Development Support and Management Services	26 556 000	255 400	26 811 400
10A. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	121 925 300	(11 699 000)	110 226 300
10B. International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT	21 642 000	684 600	22 326 600
11. United Nations Environment Programme	9 512 200	(1 281 100)	8 231 100
12. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)	13 059 600	(1 327 900)	11 731 700
13. Crime control	5 254 600	(59 700)	5 194 900
14. International drug control	17 344 100	(1 149 100)	16 195 000
Total, part IV	312 529 700	(18 232 400)	294 297 300

Expenditure sections	Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/215 A	(Increase) (decrease)	Revised appropriation
	(United States dollars)		
PART V. REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT			
15. Economic Commission for Africa	87 845 600	(5 484 700)	82 360 900
16. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	66 379 300	1 108 000	67 487 300
17. Economic Commission for Europe	52 883 100	(4 931 400)	47 951 700
18. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	88 327 200	(5 811 800)	82 515 400
19. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia	37 791 200	(3 647 900)	34 143 300
20. Regular programme of technical cooperation	44 814 700	(7 438 800)	37 375 900
Total, part V	378 041 100	(26 206 600)	351 834 500
PART VI. HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS			
21. Human rights	52 987 600	(4 987 000)	48 000 600
22. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	54 318 500	(4 179 400)	50 139 100
23. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	22 643 000	(5 338 100)	17 304 900
24. Department of Humanitarian Affairs	21 039 300	(2 083 800)	18 955 500
Total, part VI	150 988 400	(16 588 300)	134 400 100
PART VII. PUBLIC INFORMATION			
25. Public information	137 658 000	(5 267 200)	132 390 800
Total, part VII	137 658 000	(5 267 200)	132 390 800
PART VIII. COMMON SUPPORT SERVICES			
26. Administration and management	960 885 100	(44 803 600)	916 081 500
Total, part VIII	960 885 100	(44 803 600)	916 081 500
PART IX. JOINTLY FINANCED ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES AND SPECIAL EXPENSES			
27. Jointly financed administrative activities	28 915 000	(1 441 200)	27 473 800
28. Special expenses	41 701 700	(341 300)	41 360 400
Total, part IX	70 616 700	(1 782 500)	68 834 200

Expenditure sections	Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/215 A	Increase/ (decrease)	Revised appropriation
	(United States dollars)		
PART X. OFFICE OF INTERNAL OVERSIGHT SERVICES			
29. Office of Internal Oversight Services	15 716 500	(705 000)	15 011 500
Total, part X	15 716 500	(705 000)	15 011 500
PART XI. CAPITAL EXPENDITURES			
30. Technological innovations	21 999 600	(699 400)	21 300 200
31. Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	31 585 400	(2 936 600)	28 648 800
Total, part XI	53 585 000	(3 636 000)	49 949 000
PART XII. STAFF ASSESSMENT			
32. Staff assessment	369 080 100	(20 799 500)	348 280 600
Total, part XII	369 080 100	(20 799 500)	348 280 600
PART XIII. INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY			
33. International Seabed Authority	1 308 200	2 685 500	3 993 700
Total, part XIII	1 308 200	2 685 500	3 993 700
Total, expenditure sections	2 712 265 200	(108 984 300)	2 603 280 900
Less: anticipated reductions to be confirmed by the General Assembly	(103 991 200)	103 991 200	
Grand total	2 608 274 000	(4 993 100)	2 603 280 900

B

Revised income estimates for the biennium 1996-1997

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for the biennium 1996-1997, the estimates of income of 471,401,700 United States dollars approved by it in its resolution 50/215 B of 23 December 1995 shall be decreased by 23,664,100 dollars, as follows:

Income sections	Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/215 B	Increase/ (decrease)	Revised appropriation
	(United States dollars)		
1. Income from staff assessment	384 306 000	(20 809 400)	363 496 600
Total, section 1	384 306 000	(20 809 400)	363 496 600
2. General income	86 209 200	(4 189 600)	82 019 600
3. Services to the public	886 500	1 334 900	2 221 400
Total, sections 2 and 3	87 095 700	(2 854 700)	84 241 000
Grand total	471 401 700	(23 664 100)	447 737 600

C

Financing of appropriations for the year 1997

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the year 1997:

1. Budget appropriations totalling 1,299,143,900 dollars and consisting of 1,304,137,000 dollars, being half of the appropriations initially approved for the biennium 1996-1997 in resolution 50/215 A of 23 December 1995, less 4,993,100 dollars, being the reduction approved by the Assembly in resolution A above, shall be financed in accordance with regulations 5.1 and 5.2 of the Financial Regulations as follows:

(a) 50,817,943 dollars, consisting of:

(i) 43,547,850 dollars, being half of the estimated income other than income from staff assessment approved for the biennium 1996-1997 by the Assembly in its resolution 50/215 B of 23 December 1995;

(ii) Less 2,854,700 dollars, being the reduction approved by the Assembly in resolution B above;

(iii) 10,124,793 dollars, being the balance in the surplus account as at 31 December 1995;

(b) 1,248,325,957 dollars, being the assessment on Member States in accordance with its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994, on the scale of assessments for the years 1996 and 1997.

2. There shall be set off against the assessment on Member States, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) A of 15 December 1955, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the total amount of 183,140,613 dollars, consisting of:

(a) 192,153,000 dollars, being half of the estimated staff assessment income approved by the Assembly in its resolution 50/215 B;

(b) Less 20,809,400 dollars, being the estimated decrease in income from staff assessment approved by the Assembly in resolution B above;

(c) Plus 11,797,013 dollars, being the increase in income from staff assessment for the biennium 1994-1995 compared with the revised estimates approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/205 B of 23 December 1995.

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

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17 December 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 116

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

Implementation of resolutions 50/214 and 50/215

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman
following informal consultations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling its resolutions 50/214, in which it decided, inter alia, that the vacancy rate would be 6.4 per cent for both Professional and General Service posts, 50/215 and 50/216 of 23 December 1995 and 50/230 of 7 June 1996,

Also recalling the request made to the Secretary-General in paragraph 7 of section II of resolution 50/214 to present, as soon as possible, and no later than 31 March 1996, to the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, a report containing proposals of possible savings for its consideration and approval,

Reaffirming the role of the current intergovernmental process in reviewing the efficiency and reform of the programmes and activities and the need to avoid duplication,

Recognizing the need to integrate all elements of internal reviews of efficiency in the Secretariat,

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[1] A/C.5/50/57/Add.1.

[2] A/51/7/Add.1.

Recognizing also the role of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts in management reforms and in ensuring adequate programme delivery and efficiency,

Regretting that the information requested by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on personnel- and programme-related issues, including, inter alia, whether consultants were hired, if any, to carry out work previously performed by staff on posts, was not provided,

Recalling its decision 50/506 of 17 September 1996,

1. Reaffirms its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 42/211 of 21 December 1987;

2. Reaffirms also part VI of resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990, which relates to the involvement of different bodies in the budgetary process;

3. Reaffirms further the requirement of all Member States to fulfil their financial obligations as set out in the Charter of the United Nations promptly and in full;

4. Recognizes the detrimental effect of the withholding of assessed contributions on the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations;

5. Reaffirms that the authority to create, transfer and abolish posts under the regular budget is the prerogative of the General Assembly;

6. Recalls the authority of the Secretary-General as chief administrative officer, as provided for under Article 97 of the Charter;

7. Endorses the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] with the exception of the second sentence of paragraph 28 and subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

8. Expresses its concern that the report of the Secretary-General[1] does not contain a clear indication of the extent to which the approved vacancy level of 6.4 per cent has been exceeded in order to reach the savings called for in resolution 50/214;

9. Reiterates its decision that savings in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 should not affect the full implementation of mandated programmes and activities;

10. Reiterates that any proposal to change mandated programmes and activities is subject to prior approval of the General Assembly, through the Fifth Committee and other relevant bodies;

11. Notes the assurances of the Secretary-General that he will not take any decision on the involuntary separation of staff members, including those on the redeployment list, to achieve savings in the context of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/214;

12. Requests the Secretary-General, in the light of General Assembly decision 50/506, to report during the resumed session of the Fifth Committee on the progress achieved in the placement of the staff on the redeployment list, taking into account their skills and experience;

13. Requests that the information requested by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report[2] be presented no later than 1 March 1997;

14. Requests the Secretary-General, in connection with paragraphs 25 to 31 of the Advisory Committee report, to report, through the Office of Internal Oversight Services, no later than 1 March 1997, on the use of consultants and associated contractual procedures in the United Nations during the calendar year 1996;

15. Also requests the Secretary-General to review the effect of vacant posts on programme delivery and to recommend, if appropriate, restoration of the funding of these posts in the context of the budget for the biennium 1998-1999;

16. Further requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary actions to avoid duplication of efficiency review procedures;

17. Requests the Secretary-General to integrate and harmonize, where appropriate, efficiency reviews with programme planning and budget reviews;

18. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the relevant intergovernmental bodies on the efficiency proposals which have programmatic ar programme budget implications that require prior legislative approval;

19. Regrets that the programme performance report requested in paragraph 11, section II, of resolution 50/214 to be presented no later than the end of the fiftieth session, has not been submitted;

20. Requests the Secretary-General to present no later than 1 March 1997 the above-mentioned programme performance report on the impact of approved savings measures on the implementation of mandated programmes and activities, and decides to consider it as a matter of priority during the first part of its resumed session;

21. Decides that no changes to the budget methodology, established budgetary procedures, practices and Financial Regulations can be implemented without prior review and approval by the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in accordance with the agreed budgetary procedures.

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

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17 December 1996

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Fifty-first session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 140

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY ASPECTS OF THE FINANCING OF UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973, 43/232 of 1 March 1989, 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995 and 49/249 B of 14 September 1995 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995 concerning the composition of groups for the apportionment of peacekeeping appropriations,

Recalling also its resolution 46/206 of 20 December 1991, in particular paragraph 6 thereof, in which it endorsed the recommendations of the Committee for Development Planning regarding the inclusion of Zambia, among others, in the list of least developed countries,

Decides, as an ad hoc arrangement, in respect of the apportionment of peacekeeping expenses, that, from 1 January 1997, Zambia should be included in the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (d) of its resolution 43/232, and that its contributions to the financing of peacekeeping operations should be calculated in accordance with the scale of assessments approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995 and subsequent resolutions to be adopted by the Assembly concerning future scales of assessment.

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973, 43/232 of 1 March 1989, 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995 and 49/249 B of 14 September 1995 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995 concerning the composition of groups for the apportionment of peacekeeping appropriations,

Recalling also its resolution 48/223 A of 23 December 1993, in which it set the rate of assessment for the regular budget for the Czech Republic,

1. Welcomes the readiness of the Czech Republic to be placed in the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (b) of General Assembly resolution 43/232 from 1 January 1997;

2. Decides, as an ad hoc arrangement, in respect of the apportionment of peacekeeping expenses, that, from 1 January 1997, the Czech Republic shall be included in the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (b) of resolution 43/232, and that its contributions to the financing of peacekeeping operations should be calculated in accordance with the scale of assessments approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995 and subsequent resolutions to be adopted by the Assembly concerning future scales of assessments;

3. Decides also, as an ad hoc arrangement, in respect of the apportionment of peacekeeping expenses, that, for the period from its admission on 19 January 1993 through 31 December 1996, the Czech Republic shall be included in the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (c) of resolution 43/232, and that its contributions to the financing of peacekeeping operations for this period shall be calculated in accordance with the scales of assessments approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 46/221 A of 20 December 1991, 48/223 A and 49/19 B and decisions 47/456 of 23 December 1992 and 50/471 A;

4. Recalls that, in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution 48/223 A, for the year of its admission, the Czech Republic shall contribute at the rate of one twelfth of its rate of assessment for each full month of membership; its contribution in the case of appropriations or apportionments approved by the General Assembly for the financing of peacekeeping operations shall be calculated in proportion to the calendar year;

5. Decides that, notwithstanding the provisions of General Assembly resolution 48/223 A, the 1993 assessments of the Czech Republic for peacekeeping operations shall be credited to Member States included in the groups set out in paragraphs 3 (b), (c) and (d) of Assembly resolution 43/232, as adjusted by subsequent resolutions, and that the relative shares for 1993 shall be calculated on the same basis as set out in paragraph 6 below;

6. Decides also that the contributions of the Czech Republic for the financing of peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 January 1994 to 31 December 1996 shall be credited to Member States in proportion to their effective rates of assessment for the financing of peacekeeping operations during the period, subject to the following:

(a) Member States included in the groups set out in paragraphs 3 (c) and (d) of General Assembly resolution 43/232, as adjusted by subsequent resolutions, shall be credited with the full amount by which their aggregate contributions for the financing of peacekeeping operations during the period in question exceeded the aggregate level that would have applied had the Czech Republic been included in one of the groups of Member States set out in paragraph 3 of resolution 43/232, as adjusted by subsequent resolutions;

(b) The full balance of the contributions of the Czech Republic for the financing of peacekeeping operations for the period in question, after provision for crediting Member States pursuant to paragraph 6 (a) above, shall be credited to Member States included in the group set out in paragraph 3 (b) of General Assembly resolution 43/232, as adjusted by subsequent resolutions.

C

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973, 43/232 of 1 March 1989, 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995 and 49/249 B of 14 September 1995 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995 concerning the composition of groups for the apportionment of peacekeeping appropriations,

Recalling also its resolution 48/223 A of 23 December 1993, in which it set the rate of assessment for the regular budget for Slovakia,

1. Decides, as an ad hoc arrangement, in respect of the apportionment of peacekeeping expenses, that, for the period from its admission on 19 January 1993 through 31 December 1996, Slovakia shall be included in the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (c) of its resolution 43/232, and that its contributions to the financing of peacekeeping operations for this period shall be calculated in accordance with the scales of assessments approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 46/221 A of 20 December 1991, 48/223 A and 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and decisions 47/456 of 23 December 1992 and 50/471 A of 23 December 1995;

2. Recalls that, in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution 48/223 A, for the year of its admission, Slovakia shall contribute at the rate of one twelfth of its rate of assessment for each full month of membership; its contribution in the case of appropriations or apportionments approved by the General Assembly for the financing of peacekeeping operations shall be calculated in proportion to the calendar year;

3. Decides that, notwithstanding the provisions of General Assembly resolution 48/223 A, the 1993 assessments of Slovakia for peacekeeping operations shall be credited to Member States included in the groups set out in paragraphs 3 (b), (c) and (d) of Assembly resolution 43/232, as adjusted by subsequent resolutions, and that the relative shares for 1993 shall be calculated on the same basis as set out in paragraph 4 below;

4. Decides also that the contributions of Slovakia for the financing of peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 January 1994 to 31 December 1996 shall be credited to Member States in proportion to their effective rates of assessment for the financing of peacekeeping operations during the period, subject to the following:

(a) Member States included in the groups set out in paragraphs 3 (c) and (d) of General Assembly resolution 43/232, as adjusted by subsequent resolutions, shall be credited with the full amount by which their aggregate contributions for the financing of peacekeeping operations during the period in question exceeded the aggregate level that would have applied had Slovakia been included in one of the groups of Member States set out in paragraph 3 of resolution 43/232, as adjusted by subsequent resolutions;

(b) The full balance of the contributions of Slovakia for the financing of peacekeeping operations for the period in question, after provision for crediting Member States pursuant to paragraph 4 (a) above, shall be credited to Member States included in the group set out in paragraph 3 (b) of General Assembly resolution 43/232, as adjusted by subsequent resolutions.

D

The General Assembly

Decides to continue its consideration of the item entitled "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations" at its resumed fifty-first session.

UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

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A/C.5/51/L.35
16 December 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 121

UNITED NATIONS COMMON SYSTEM

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the twenty-second annual report of the International Civil Service Commission[1] and other related reports,[2]

Reaffirming its commitment to a single, unified United Nations common system as the cornerstone for the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

Reaffirming the central role of the Commission in the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

Taking note of the statement of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and of the introductory statement of the Secretary-General regarding the report of the Commission,

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[1] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 30 (A/51/30).

[2] A/50/30 and Add.1, A/C.5/51/24 and A/C.5/51/25 and Corr.1.

I

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE OF THE PROFESSIONAL AND HIGHER CATEGORIES

A. Examination of the Noblemaire principle and its application

Recalling its resolutions[1] related to the study of all aspects of the application of the Noblemaire principle,

Recalling also section I.B of its resolution 44/198 of 21 December 1989, by which it reaffirmed that the Noblemaire principle should continue to serve as the basis of comparison between United Nations emoluments and those of the highest-paying national civil service,

Recalling further section I.A of its resolution 50/208 of 23 December 1995, by which it decided to defer consideration of the Noblemaire principle and its application and requested the Commission to review the recommendations and conclusions contained in chapter III.A of its twenty-first annual report,[4] to take into account the views expressed by Member States at its fiftieth session, in particular regarding the appropriateness of the reduction of dominance and the treatment of bonuses in determining net remuneration comparisons,

1. Reconfirms the continued application of the Noblemaire principle;

2. Reaffirms the need to continue to ensure the competitiveness of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system;

B. Comparator

1. Takes note of the further steps taken by the Commission to complete its study to identify the highest paid national civil service as outlined in paragraph 47 of the addendum to its twenty-first annual report;[5]

2. Decides to consider at its fifty-second session the report of the Commission as contained in paragraphs 33 to 47 of the addendum to its twenty-first annual report;

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[1] Resolution 46/191 A, sects. IV and VI; resolution 47/216, sect. II.C; resolution 48/224, sect. II.A and B; and resolution 49/223, sect. III.A.

[4] A/50/30.

[5] A/50/30/Add.1.

C. Margin considerations and base/floor salary scale

Recalling that in the past the General Assembly had requested the Commission to make recommendations on the net remuneration margin methodology and that the Assembly has taken decisions in this regard,

Recalling also that by its resolution 44/198, section I.C, paragraph 3, it had endorsed the methodological approach for the calculation of the net remuneration margin as outlined in paragraph 173 (d) of the fifteenth annual report of the Commission,*

Recalling further section VIII of its resolution 46/191 A of 20 December 1991, by which the Commission was invited to pursue as a matter of priority its review of merit systems and performance appraisal in the common system as a vehicle for enhancing productivity and cost-effectiveness, as well as section VII of its resolution 49/223 of 23 December 1994,

1. Decides that the net remuneration margin methodology without the modifications in paragraph 119 (b) (ii) and (iii) of the Commission's twenty-first annual report* should continue to apply;

2. Reaffirms that the range of 110 to 120, with a desirable mid-point of 115, for the margin between net remuneration of officials in the Professional and higher categories of the United Nations in New York and officials in comparable positions in the United States federal civil service should continue to apply, on the understanding that the margin would be maintained at a level around the desirable mid-point of 115 over a period of time;

3. Notes that the margin between net remuneration of officials in the Professional and higher categories of the United Nations in New York and that of officials in comparable positions in the United States federal civil service for 1996, on the basis of its decision in paragraph 1 above, is 114.6;

4. Approves, with effect from 1 January 1997, the revised scale of gross and net salaries for staff in the Professional and higher categories contained in annex I to the present resolution and the consequential amendment to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations, as reflected in annex II to the present resolution;

5. Reiterates its request contained in paragraph 4 of section I.A of its resolution 50/208 that organizations collect data to substantiate any problems with recruitment and retention difficulties faced by some organizations in respect of certain specialized occupations, and that the Commission make recommendations for the implementation of special occupational rates as appropriate;

6. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to make operational proposals to the General Assembly by 1 October 1997 on the

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* Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Supplement No. 30 (A/50/30).

possibility of introducing a system of performance awards or bonuses, in the context of the performance appraisal system, to a limited number of staff in recognition of their outstanding performance and specific achievements in a given year, for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-second session;

7. Invites the executive heads of the organizations of the common system to develop and submit proposals, as a matter of priority, to their relevant intergovernmental bodies on the possibility of introducing performance awards or bonuses to a limited number of staff in recognition of their outstanding performance and specific achievements in a given year, and to coordinate, to the extent possible, these proposals with those developed by the Secretary-General;

8. Requests the Commission to provide general comments on the concept of performance awards and bonuses to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session;

D. Supplementary payments

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session regarding the decisions of the Commission with respect to the practice of some Member States of making supplementary payments with respect to their nationals, and recalling also the affirmation by the Commission that such arrangements are unnecessary, inappropriate and undesirable, and are inconsistent with the staff regulations of the organizations,

1. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the executive heads of the organizations of the common system to take such measures and make such proposals as they consider appropriate in order to end such practices;

2. Requests all organizations to issue or reissue, as appropriate, instructions to staff regarding the unacceptability of receiving supplementary payments;

3. Invites Member States to discontinue such practices;

E. Post adjustment matters

Recalling its request in section II.G of its resolution 48/224 of 23 December 1993, regarding place-to-place surveys conducted at headquarters duty stations,

Recalling also its request in section I.B, paragraph 3, of its resolution 50/208 of 23 December 1995, regarding the operation of the post adjustment system, the examination of the system by the working group on post adjustment [including, inter alia, the identification of elements of pay, expenditures, that should not be indexed for local price charges, the evaluation of out-of-area expenditures as part of pay and the study of the appropriateness of applying the out-of-area index to some of those elements],

Recalling further its request in section I.B, paragraph 2, of its resolution 50/208, regarding the establishment in 1996, in respect of staff members whose duty station is Geneva, of a single post adjustment index which is fully representative of the cost of living of all staff working in the duty station and which ensures equality of treatment with staff in other headquarters duty stations,

1. Endorses the Commission's decision regarding the out-of-area expenditure weights as contained in paragraph 188 of its report,[1] and requests the Commission to continue to monitor this issue and to report to the General Assembly as appropriate;

2. Notes the introduction, with effect from 1 March 1997, of minimum out-of-area expenditure weights in the calculation of post adjustment indices as contained in paragraph 188 of the report;

3. Reiterates its request to the Commission urgently to complete its study regarding the methodology for establishing a single post adjustment index for Geneva, and to complete the study needed to implement the single post adjustment at the earliest date, and no later than 1 January 1998;

4. Requests the Commission to review further all the issues relating to the post adjustment system, inter alia, those listed in paragraph 3 of section I.B of resolution 50/208, and report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

F. Dependency allowances

Recalling paragraph 2 of section II.F of its resolution 47/216 of 23 December 1992, in which it noted that the Commission would review the level of dependency allowances every two years,

Noting the Commission's review of dependency allowances, reflecting relevant changes in tax abatement and social legislation at the seven headquarters duty stations since 1993,

1. Approves, with effect from 1 January 1997, an increase of 7.98 per cent in the children's allowance (including that for disabled children) and secondary dependant's allowance;

2. Takes note of the updated list of hard currency duty stations for which the allowances are specified in local currency, as contained in annex X to the report of the Commission;[1]

II

GENERAL SERVICE AND OTHER LOCALLY RECRUITED CATEGORIES

Recalling that in section XIV of its resolution 45/241 of 2 December 1990, the General Assembly had requested the Commission to consider, inter alia, the relativities between the terms and conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories and those in other categories,

Recalling also section III, paragraph 1 of its resolution 47/216, in which it endorsed the reaffirmation by the Commission of the Flemming principle as the basis for determining the conditions of service of the General Service and related categories,

1. Notes the preparations undertaken for the 1997 review of the methodologies for the surveys of best-prevailing local conditions of employment at headquarters and non-headquarters duty stations;

2. Urges the representatives of staff to participate fully in the Commission's working groups in its review of the salary survey methodologies;

3. Requests the Commission, as part of its review of the methodology for salary setting for staff in the General Service and other locally recruited categories, inter alia:

(a) To resolve, to the extent possible, inconsistencies between this methodology and the one which is applied pursuant to the Noblemaire principle, inter alia, by examining the question of overlap in remuneration between the two categories;

(b) To study the feasibility of increasing the weight of public-sector employers in the salary surveys at headquarters duty stations;

(c) To submit a report based on the review of the methodology to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session;

4. Also requests the Commission to defer a final decision on the General Service salary setting methodology pending the review of the application of the Flemming principle by the General Assembly at its fifty-second session and to adjust its programme of headquarters salary surveys as appropriate;

5. Decides that the requests contained in paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of section I.C above shall also apply in respect of staff in the General Service and other locally recruited categories of staff;

III

COMMON STAFF ASSESSMENT SCALE

Recalling that, in its resolution 48/225 of 23 December 1993, section I, paragraph 4, it had approved the procedure in paragraph 44 of the nineteenth

annual report of the Commission[7] for determining the common staff assessment scale, with two separate sets of rates (single and dependent), and its request to the Commission in paragraph 5, in close cooperation with the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, as part of the comprehensive review, inter alia, of the methodology for determining the scale of pensionable remuneration of staff in the Professional and higher categories scheduled for 1996, to develop a common staff assessment scale for the determination of the pensionable remuneration of all categories of staff using the above-mentioned procedure and reflecting the latest available tax rates,

Noting with satisfaction, that the close cooperation between the Commission and the Board has resulted in agreement between the two bodies, inter alia, on the methodology and its application for the common staff assessment scale for all categories of staff, as reflected in their respective reports,

Noting that the Commission, in accordance with article 10 (d) of its statute, has developed the common staff assessment scale for pensionable remuneration purposes contained in annex IV to the report of the Commission,[7] taking into account the views of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board set out in paragraphs 152 to 159 of its report,[8] and the considerations set out in paragraphs 83 to 89 of the Commission's report,[7]

1. Approves, with effect from 1 January 1997, the revised staff assessment scale recommended by the Commission in annex IV to its report for determining the pensionable remuneration of all categories of staff, subject to the procedure set out in paragraph 107 of the report of the Commission[7] in the case of General Service and related categories, as well as for use in conjunction with gross salaries of the General Service and related categories of staff, and the consequential amendments to the Staff Regulations as shown in annex II to the present resolution;

2. Requests the Commission to report on the impact of the differences in national and local tax rates at the seven headquarters duty stations on the gross pension benefits of locally recruited staff in the General Service and related categories at these duty stations in comparison with the compensation for such taxes provided by the common staff assessment rates;

IV

EDUCATION GRANT

Recalling section IV, paragraph 1, of its resolution 47/216, in which it endorsed the revised methodology for the determination of the education grant,

1. Approves increases in the maximum reimbursement levels in seven currency areas, as well as other adjustments to the management of the

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[7] Ibid., Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 30 (A/48/30 and Corr.1).

[8] Ibid., Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 9 (A/51/9).

reimbursement of expenses under the education grant, as recommended by the Commission in paragraph 230 (a) to (f) of its report;[1]

2. Takes note of the Commission's intention to undertake in 1997 an in-depth review of the methodology for determining the education grant;

3. Decides, pending the completion of the above review, to delegate to the Chairman of the International Civil Service Commission the authority requested in paragraph 230 (e) of its report;

V

APPOINTMENTS OF LIMITED DURATION

Takes note of chapter VI.B of the report of the Commission[1] and requests the Commission to continue its review of the subject of appointments of limited duration without delay,

VI

MOBILITY AND HARDSHIP

Recalling section I.E of its resolution 44/198, by which it introduced a mobility and hardship allowance with effect from 1 July 1990 and requested the Commission to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the operation of the allowance and the assignment grant,

Recalling also section V of its resolution 47/216, by which it took note of the intention of the Commission to review the operation of the scheme after more experience had been gained in its operation and requested the Commission to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session,

Recalling further paragraph 2 of section VI of its resolution 49/223, by which it requested the Commission to reconsider its decision to link hazard pay to the base/floor salary scale for internationally recruited staff and its decision on the level of hazard pay and to propose alternative approaches to hazard pay and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session,

1. Takes note of the conclusions of the Commission in respect of the operation of the mobility and hardship scheme as contained in chapter VII of its report;[1]

2. Approves the Commission's recommendations regarding the mobility and hardship scheme as contained in paragraph 304 (d), (e), (f) and (g) of its report;

3. Endorses the Commission's decision to delink hazard pay for Professional and higher level staff from the base/floor salary scale and to review the level of hazard pay every two years;

4. Requests the Commission to further review the linkage between the base/floor salary scale and the mobility and hardship allowance taking into account the views expressed by Member States in the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly;

VII

STAFF PARTICIPATION IN THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION

Recalling section I.B of its resolution 47/216, section I of its resolution 48/224 and section II of its resolution 49/223,

1. Notes with appreciation the recent developments regarding the resumption of the dialogue between the Commission and the staff associations as expressed in relevant statements in the Fifth Committee;

2. Reiterates its request in its resolution 50/208, section IV, paragraph 4, wherein it called upon the Coordinating Committee for International Staff Unions and Associations of the United Nations System and the Federation of International Civil Servants' Associations to resume participation in the work of the Commission in a spirit of cooperation and non-confrontation;

VIII

FUNCTIONING OF THE COMMISSION

Recognizing that an audit of the work of the Commission has not been undertaken since its establishment,

Calls upon the Board of Auditors, without prejudging its programme of work, to conduct a management review of all aspects of the work done by the secretariat of the Commission in time for the submission of a report thereon to the General Assembly during its fifty-second session,

IX

STATE OF THE COMMON SYSTEM

Recalling its resolution 46/191 A of 20 December 1991,

Requests the Commission to take the lead in analysing new approaches in the human resources management field so as to develop standards, methods and arrangements that will respond to the specific needs, especially regarding future staffing, of the organizations of the common system including, inter alia, consideration of flexible contractual arrangements, performance-based pay and the introduction of special occupational pay rates, and to report to the General Assembly thereon at its fifty-third session.

Annex I

SALARY SCALE FOR THE PROFESSIONAL AND HIGHER CATEGORIES*
ANNUAL GROSS SALARIES AND NET EQUIVALENTS AFTER APPLICATION OF STAFF ASSESSMENT
(In United States dollars)
Effective 1 January 1997

Level	STEPS														
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII	XIII	XIV	XV
USG															
Gross	142 546														
Net (D)	99 059														
(S)	89 069														
ASG															
Gross	129 524														
Net (D)	90 855														
(S)	82 245														
D-2															
Gross	106 053	108 373	110 704	113 056	115 409	117 763									
Net (D)	76 033	77 516	78 998	80 480	81 963	83 446									
(S)	69 824	71 112	72 384	73 616	74 849	76 083									
D-1															
Gross	93 810	95 797	97 784	99 767	101 754	103 741	105 728	107 715	109 700						
Net (D)	68 210	69 479	70 749	72 016	73 286	74 556	75 825	77 095	78 364						
(S)	63 030	64 132	65 235	66 336	67 439	68 541	69 644	70 747	71 849						
P-5															
Gross	82 758	84 534	86 310	88 085	89 861	91 655	93 453	95 251	97 047	98 845	100 643	102 439	104 237		
Net (D)	61 090	62 239	63 387	64 536	65 685	66 833	67 982	69 131	70 278	71 427	72 576	73 724	74 873		
(S)	56 664	57 707	58 749	59 791	60 833	61 834	62 832	63 829	64 826	65 824	66 822	67 819	68 817		
P-4															
Gross	68 181	69 891	71 597	73 303	75 013	76 743	78 474	80 206	81 938	83 667	85 397	87 131	88 862	90 601	92 355
Net (D)	51 597	52 718	53 838	54 957	56 078	57 198	58 318	59 438	60 559	61 678	62 797	63 920	65 039	66 159	67 280
(S)	48 019	49 044	50 068	51 092	52 118	53 133	54 149	55 166	56 182	57 198	58 213	59 232	60 247	61 249	62 222
P-3															
Gross	55 700	57 282	58 866	60 446	62 030	63 612	65 196	66 802	68 405	70 011	71 616	73 218	74 822	76 445	78 073
Net (D)	43 326	44 378	45 431	46 482	47 535	48 587	49 639	50 692	51 744	52 797	53 849	54 901	55 953	57 005	58 058
(S)	40 419	41 387	42 356	43 323	44 292	45 260	46 228	47 191	48 153	49 116	50 079	51 043	52 003	52 958	53 914
P-2															
Gross	44 830	46 208	47 586	48 967	50 345	51 726	53 106	54 485	55 889	57 303	58 717	60 136			
Net (D)	35 921	36 864	37 804	38 745	39 686	40 627	41 568	42 509	43 451	44 391	45 332	46 274			
(S)	33 701	34 556	35 408	36 261	37 113	37 966	38 820	39 672	40 534	41 390	42 265	43 132			
P-1															
Gross	34 152	35 417	36 710	38 004	39 297	40 590	41 887	43 180	44 473	45 786					
Net (D)	28 435	29 341	30 245	31 150	32 054	32 958	33 864	34 768	35 671	36 576					
(S)	26 825	27 658	28 488	29 319	30 149	30 979	31 811	32 641	33 471	34 296					

D = Rate applicable to staff members with a dependent spouse or child.
S = Rate applicable to staff members with no dependent spouse or child.

* This scale will be implemented effective 1 January 1997 in conjunction with a consolidation of 5.26 per cent of post adjustment. There will be consequential adjustments in the post adjustment indices and multipliers at all duty stations, effective 1 January 1997. Thereafter, changes in post adjustment classifications will be effected on the basis of the movements of the newly consolidated post adjustment indices.

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Annex II

Amendments to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations

Regulation 3.3

Replace the tables in paragraph (b) (i) by the following:

Total assessable payments (United States dollars)	Staff assessment rates for purposes of pensionable remuneration and pensions (percentage)
Up to 20 000 per year	11
20 001 to 40 000 per year	18
40 001 to 60 000 per year	25
60 001 and above per year	30

Total assessable payments (United States dollars)	Staff assessment rates used in conjunction with gross base salaries (percentage)	
	Staff member with a dependent spouse or a dependent child	Staff member with neither a dependent spouse nor a dependent child
First 15 000 per year	9.0	11.8
Next 5 000 per year	18.1	24.6
Next 5 000 per year	21.5	27.1
Next 5 000 per year	24.9	31.7
Next 5 000 per year	27.5	33.4
Next 10 000 per year	30.1	35.8
Next 10 000 per year	31.8	38.2
Next 10 000 per year	33.5	38.8
Next 10 000 per year	34.4	40.0
Next 15 000 per year	35.3	41.3
Next 20 000 per year	36.1	44.5
Remaining assessable payments	37.0	47.6

Annex III

Amendments to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations

Regulation 3.3

Replace the table in paragraph (b) (ii) by the following table:

Total assessable payments (United States dollars)	Assessment (percentage)
Up to 20 000 per year	19
20 001 to 40 000 per year	23
40 001 to 60 000 per year	26
60 001 and above per year	31

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A

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Agenda item 122

UNITED NATIONS PENSION SYSTEM

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman
following informal consultations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/242 of 21 December 1990, 46/192 of 20 December 1991, 47/203 of 22 December 1992, 48/224 and 48/225 of 23 December 1993 and 49/224 of 23 December 1994, section VII of resolution 50/216 of 23 December 1995 and decision 50/485 of 7 June 1996,

Having considered the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board for 1996 to the General Assembly and to the member organizations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,[1] chapter III of the report of the International Civil Service Commission for the year 1996,[2] the report of the Secretary-General on the investments of the Fund[3] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[4]

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[1] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 9 and corrigendum (A/51/9 and Corr.1).

[2] Ibid., Supplement No. 30 (A/51/30).

[3] A/C.5/51/4.

[4] A/51/644.

I

ACTUARIAL MATTERS

Recalling section II of its resolution 47/203, section II of its resolution 48/225 and section I of its resolution 49/224,

Having considered the results of the valuation of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund as at 31 December 1995 and the observations thereon of the Consulting Actuary of the Fund, the Committee of Actuaries and the Board,

1. Takes note of the decrease in the actuarial imbalance from 1.49 to 1.46 per cent of pensionable remuneration, reflected in the valuation of the Fund as at 31 December 1995, and in particular of the opinions provided by the Consulting Actuary and the Committee of Actuaries, as reproduced in annexes IV and V, respectively, to the report of the Board,[1] that there was no requirement, as at 31 December 1995, for deficiency payments under article 26 of the Regulations of the Fund and that the current contribution rate of 23.7 per cent of pensionable remuneration could be maintained for funding purposes, pending a review at the time of the next valuation, as at 31 December 1997, and in the light of future developments;

2. Takes note also of the reviews by the Standing Committee of the Pension Board in 1995 and the Board in 1996 of the interest rate used to determine lump-sum commutations, and of the decision by the Board, under article 11 of the Regulations of the Fund, to retain the current 6.5 per cent interest rate, which would be reviewed again by the Board in 1998;

3. Takes note further of the review by the Board of further amendments required to article 28 of the Regulations of the Fund as a consequence of the increase in the maximum number of years of creditable contributory service that had been adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 49/224 and had entered into effect on 1 July 1995;

4. Approves, with retroactive effect as from 1 July 1996, amendments to paragraphs (d) and (g) of article 28 of the Regulations of the Fund, as set out in annex I to the present resolution.

II

PENSIONABLE REMUNERATION OF STAFF IN THE PROFESSIONAL AND HIGHER CATEGORIES AND IN THE GENERAL SERVICE AND RELATED CATEGORIES

Recalling paragraph 3 of section I of its resolution 45/242 and paragraph 4 of section III of its resolution 47/203 concerning its request to the International Civil Service Commission to undertake, in full cooperation with the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, a further comprehensive review of the methodology for the determination of the scale of pensionable remuneration of staff in the Professional and higher categories, for monitoring the level of the scale and for its adjustment between comprehensive reviews, and to submit

recommendations thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session in 1996,

Recalling also section I of its resolution 48/225, in which the Assembly approved (a) the use of the income replacement approach to determine the pensionable remuneration for staff in the General Service and related categories; (b) the application of an interim adjustment procedure similar to that applicable to staff in the Professional and higher categories, namely on the basis of a 1:1 relationship to increases in the net salaries; and (c) the procedure recommended by the Commission for determining a common staff assessment scale, with two separate sets of rates (single and dependent), for introduction in 1997,

Recalling further its request in the same resolution to the Commission, in close cooperation with the Pension Board and as part of the comprehensive review in 1996 of the methodology to determine the pensionable remuneration and consequent pensions of staff in the Professional and higher categories, to develop a common staff assessment scale for the determination of the pensionable remuneration of all categories of staff using the approved procedure and reflecting the latest available tax rates,

Noting with satisfaction that the close cooperation between the Commission and the Board has resulted in agreement between the two bodies on the methodologies for determining the pensionable remuneration for all categories of staff, and on the development and application of a common staff assessment scale for pensionable remuneration purposes, as reflected in their respective reports,

Noting that the Commission, in accordance with article 10 (d) of its statute, has developed the common staff assessment scale for pensionable remuneration purposes, contained in annex IV to the report of the Commission,[2] taking into account the views of the Board as set out in paragraphs 152 to 159 of its report[1] and the considerations set out in paragraphs 83 to 89 of the report of the Commission,[2]

Noting also its decision in section III of resolution 51/__ of __ December 1996 that the common scale of staff assessment recommended by the Commission should be applied in determining the pensionable remuneration for all categories of staff, with effect from 1 January 1997, subject, in the case of staff in the General Service and related categories, to the procedure set out in paragraph 107 of the report of the Commission,[2]

1. Decides, as regards staff in the Professional and higher categories, that:

(a) The income replacement in New York should continue to be used as the basis for the methodology for the determination of the pensionable remuneration of such staff;

(b) The methodology to determine the current scale of pensionable remuneration, described in annex I to the report of the Commission,[2] should continue to be used in the future;

(c) The current interim adjustment procedure for adjusting pensionable remuneration for such staff between comprehensive reviews should be continued, as described in annex I to the report of the Commission;[2]

(d) The monitoring of pensionable remuneration and the United Nations/United States income replacement ratios should be carried out on the occasion of periodic comprehensive reviews of the pensionable remuneration and consequent pensions of such staff, and that, between comprehensive reviews, the Commission should review every two years the factors affecting the comparisons of pensionable remuneration and income replacement ratios and, if necessary, submit a report thereon to the General Assembly;

2. Takes note of the decision of the Commission to carry out, in close cooperation with the Pension Board, on the occasion of future comprehensive reviews of the pensionable remuneration of staff in the Professional and higher categories, actuarial analyses of the pension benefits from the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund scheme and those applicable to the staff of the comparator service, and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

3. Amends, with effect from 1 January 1997, article 54 (b) of the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, as set out in annex I to the present resolution, to incorporate the revised scale of pensionable remuneration for staff in the Professional and higher categories, using the approved common staff assessment scale;

4. Decides, as regards staff in the General Service and related categories, that:

(a) The income replacement approach and the methodology related thereto should continue to be used for the determination of pensionable remuneration of such staff, including the use of 66.25 per cent of the net pensionable salary for grossing-up purposes;

(b) The current interim adjustment procedure should continue to be used in the future;

5. Takes note of the decision of the Commission to establish a working group to review the methodology for identifying and quantifying the non-pensionable components of the salaries of staff in the General Service and related categories, as part of the Commission's review of the General Service salary setting methodologies for headquarters and non-headquarters duty stations scheduled for 1997;

6. Requests the Commission, in full cooperation with the Board, to undertake in 2002 further comprehensive reviews of the methodologies for the determination of the pensionable remuneration for staff in the Professional and higher categories and in the General Service and related categories, and for the adjustment of pensionable remuneration between comprehensive reviews, and to submit recommendations thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

III

PENSION ADJUSTMENT SYSTEM

Recalling section IV of its resolution 46/192, section V of its resolution 47/203, section I of its resolution 48/225 and section III of its resolution 49/224,

1. Takes note of the reviews carried out by the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, as described in section VII of its report,[1] on various aspects of the pension adjustment system;

2. Takes note also of the results of the monitoring of the costs/savings of recent modifications of the two-track feature of the pension adjustment system, and of the intention of the Board to continue to monitor those costs/savings every two years, on the occasion of the actuarial valuations of the Fund;

3. Approves changes in the pension adjustment system, as set out in annex II to the present resolution, (a) to include, without creating a precedent for other situations, with retroactive effect from 1 January 1996, a special measure for determining local currency track pension amounts for beneficiaries residing in countries where a new currency unit has been introduced which significantly strengthens the relationship of the local currency to the United States dollar, subject to the eligibility criteria set out in paragraph 208 of the report of the Board,[1] and (b) to provide greater specificity in the criteria set out in paragraph 26 of the pension adjustment system for discontinuing the local currency track pension amounts when they lead to aberrant results in a particular country;

4. Takes note of the further review carried out by the International Civil Service Commission and the Board of the provisions of the special index for pensioners, which are used to reduce or eliminate the compensation made for cost-of-living differences in the determination of the initial local currency track pensions under the two-track feature of the pension adjustment system whenever beneficiaries have a tax advantage in an otherwise high-cost country of retirement, and approves the agreed recommendation of the Commission and the Board that the current provisions of the special index for pensioners should be maintained.

IV

ACTIVITIES RELATED TO RESOLVING PROBLEMS CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSFER AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE FUND AND THE FORMER UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, UKRAINIAN SSR AND BYELORUSSIAN SSR

Recalling its resolutions 48/225 and 49/224,

Noting that the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund had transferred to the Social Security Fund of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics the

actuarial value of the pension rights accrued by individual former participants, as required under the relevant Transfer Agreements with the former USSR, Ukrainian SSR and Byelorussian SSR,

1. Takes note of the legal opinion of the United Nations Legal Counsel set out in paragraph 124 of the report of the Board to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session;[5]

2. Notes that the proposed Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, as set out in annex VI to the report of the Board,[1] does not give rise to any rights or entitlements of any kind for any person under the Fund's Regulations, and that the provisions of the proposed Agreement are not incorporated in any way in the Fund's Regulations or Administrative Rules;

[3. Concurs with the proposed Agreement, which would represent the first step in resolving the problems that have arisen with respect to the application of the Transfer Agreements;]

4. Notes also that some Member States have expressed concern that the proposed Agreement only covers certain former Fund participants who are now citizens of the Russian Federation;

5. Endorses the further steps envisaged in the proposed Agreement and in paragraph 246 of the report of the Board,[1] as endorsed by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraph 32 of its report[4] and, towards this end, urges the Governments of the Member States concerned to undertake direct discussions aimed at resolving the financial issues involved in respect of those former participants who are their citizens or permanent residents;

6. Requests the Board to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session on the developments in respect of the further steps mentioned in paragraph 5 above and to submit recommendations related thereto to the General Assembly, as appropriate.

V

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE FUND AND REPORT OF THE BOARD OF AUDITORS

1. Notes with satisfaction that the report of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund for the biennium ended 31 December 1995 had revealed no material weakness or errors in the Fund's procedures and operational systems, nor any evidence of fraud;

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[5] Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 9 (A/48/9).

2. Takes note of the measures taken and under consideration by the secretariat of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund to improve the procedures for verifying continuing eligibility for benefits from the Fund;

3. Takes note also of the arrangements made for internal audits of the Fund, to be carried out by the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to make available to the Fund the United Nations machinery for contracting and procurement, as recommended by the Board in paragraph 111 of its report.[1]

VI

ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA

Noting that the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea meets the conditions set out in article 3 of the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund for membership in the Fund,

Decides to approve the admission to membership in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, as from 1 January 1997.

VII

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Recalling section VII of its resolution 50/216 and its request, made on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, that the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board review the additional staffing proposals for the Investment Management Service that had been presented to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session in the budget proposals for the biennium 1996-1997,

Having considered the observations of the Board on the staffing of the Investment Management Service and on other requests for additional resources, as set out in paragraphs 313 to 328 of its report,[1]

Approves the additional staffing and other resources recommended by the Board, in paragraphs 330 and 332 of its report,[1] involving expenses amounting to 1,187,200 United States dollars net for the biennium 1996-1997, chargeable directly to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, for the administration of the Fund.

VIII

OTHER MATTERS

Recalling its decision 50/485 of 7 June 1996 concerning the provisions of the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund governing the suspension of benefits in cases of re-employment of retirees in a member organization of the Fund, and in particular its invitation to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board to examine the possibility of suspending benefits in case of re-employments for periods of less than six months,

1. Takes note of the review carried out by the Board, as set out in paragraphs 252 to 261 of its report,[1] and of its decision to defer consideration of a possible amendment of article 40 (a) of the Regulations of the Fund, pending action by the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the report it had requested from the Secretary-General on the question of employment of retirees by the United Nations;

2. Takes note also of its decision 51/___ of 4 November 1996 which, inter alia, sets a ceiling on the amount that retired staff in receipt of a pension benefit from the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund who are re-employed by the United Nations may earn per calendar year and limits such employment to no more than six months per calendar year;

3. Requests the Board to continue its consideration of an amendment of article 40 (a) of the Regulations of the Fund in respect of re-employment of retirees in receipt of benefits from the Fund under appointments of more than two but less than six months, and to submit a recommendation thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

4. Takes note of the review by the Board of the entitlement to survivors' benefits for spouses and former spouses, and of the intention of the Board to examine further the various aspects of this issue, including consideration by the Standing Committee of the Pension Board in 1997 of a limited modification to the Fund's administrative rule B.4 on confidentiality and of the implications of introducing a payment facility in respect of court orders on family support, as well as consideration by the Board at its session in 1998 of the more far-reaching issue of possible revision of articles 34 and 35 of the Regulations of the Fund;

5. Takes note also of the other matters dealt with in section IX of the report of the Board.[1]

IX

INVESTMENTS OF THE FUND

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, on the review of the new custodial arrangements for the Fund's assets implemented in 1994 and on the review of the arrangements for the provision of institutional advisory

services,[3] as well as the observations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board thereon in its report;[1]

2. Takes note also of the observations of the Board of Auditors on the outstanding tax refunds due to the Fund from some Member States in respect of direct taxes imposed on the Fund's investment income, as set out in paragraphs 41 to 43 of its report and reproduced in annex III to the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board,[1] and the comments of the Pension Board thereon;

3. Takes note with satisfaction of the increase in the number of Member States which have granted tax exemption for the investments of the Fund;

4. Reiterates its request to those Member States which do not grant such exemptions to make all possible efforts to do so as soon as possible;

5. Urges those Member States which have outstanding balances on foreign tax accounts receivable, as shown in schedule 6 of the financial statements contained in annex II of the report of the Board,[1] to make all possible efforts to reimburse the amounts due as quickly as possible.

ANNEX I

Amendments to the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

Article 28

Retirement benefit

1. Replace paragraph (d) (i) (B) with the following:

"The maximum benefit payable under the same provisions of (b) or (c) above to a participant at the level D-2 (top step for the preceding five years) separating on the same date as the participant."

2. Replace paragraph (g) (i) (B) with the following:

"The actuarial equivalent of one third of the maximum benefit that would be payable to a participant retiring at the normal retirement age, on the same date as the participant, with a final average remuneration equal to the pensionable remuneration on that date for the top step of level P-5 on the scale of pensionable remuneration appended to article 54."

Article 54 (b)

Pensionable remuneration

1. Replace the first sentence with the following:

"In the case of participants in the Professional and higher categories, the scale of pensionable remuneration effective 1 January 1997 shall be as set out in appendix B hereto."

2. Replace appendix B with the following:

Appendix B

PENSIONABLE REMUNERATION FOR STAFF IN THE PROFESSIONAL AND HIGHER CATEGORIES

(United States dollars)

(Effective 1 January 1997)

	STEPS														
Level	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII	XIII	XIV	XV
USG	175 139														
ASG	161 876														
D-2	134 605	137 664	140 723	143 779	146 838	149 897									
D-1	119 218	121 663	124 107	126 547	128 992	131 558	134 177	136 797	139 413						
P-5	105 510	107 722	109 934	112 146	114 358	116 567	118 779	120 991	123 201	125 413	127 625	129 842	132 212		
P-4	87 233	89 392	91 547	93 702	95 861	98 016	100 173	102 330	104 487	106 642	108 797	110 959	113 113	115 270	117 428
P-3	72 604	74 457	76 311	78 162	80 016	81 869	83 721	85 576	87 516	89 544	91 569	93 595	95 620	97 645	99 673
P-2	59 564	61 224	62 880	64 538	66 194	67 852	69 509	71 165	72 825	74 481	76 137	77 796			
P-1	46 832	47 978	49 569	51 163	52 755	54 346	55 942	57 533	59 125	60 719					

ANNEX II

Changes in the pension adjustment system

I. Payment of the benefit

Replace paragraph 26 (a) by the following text:

"26. (a) For countries where the application of the local-currency track would lead to aberrant results, with wide fluctuations depending on the precise commencement date of the underlying benefit entitlement, establishment of a local currency base amount in accordance with section C may be discontinued by the Secretary of the Pension Board. In such cases, the Secretary shall duly inform the Board or the Standing Committee of this action, as soon as feasible;

"(b) Aberrant results in (a) above may be due, inter alia, to:

"(i) Very high inflation rate and an exchange rate which either remained fixed or whose fluctuation was very limited in relation to the level of the inflation rate;

"(ii) The 36-month average of exchange rates covered different currency units or included a currency unit that was no longer applicable;

"(iii) Substantial depreciation of the local currency, combined with non-existent, inconsistent or outdated information on the movement of the country's consumer price index."

Re-letter current 26 (b) as 26 (c).

Add the following new section Q:

"Q. Special measure for determination of the local currency base amount in certain countries with a new currency unit

"38. (a) For countries where a new currency unit was introduced on or after 1 January 1990 which represented, at the time of its introduction, an increase in the value of the local currency, in relation to the United States dollar, of at least 100 per cent, the local currency base amount under section C, paragraph 5 (b) (iii) above, shall be determined in the following manner:

"(i) For beneficiaries separating before or during the month of introduction of the new currency unit:
by applying to the dollar base amount, as adjusted under section H above to the date of introduction of the new local currency unit, the United Nations operational exchange rate in effect as of such date;

"(ii) For beneficiaries separating after the end of the month of introduction of the new currency unit: by applying to the dollar base amount the average of the United Nations operational exchange rates for the new local currency unit over the period from the effective month of introduction of the new currency unit to the month of separation, up to a maximum of thirty-six months;

"(b) This special measure shall apply to all beneficiaries who have provided, or will provide in future, proof of residence in a country which meets the criteria in subparagraph (a) above;

"(c) (i) The local currency base amount determined in accordance with (a) (i) above shall be adjusted by the consumer price index movement, in accordance with section H above, as from the date of introduction of the new currency unit;

"(ii) The local currency base amount determined in accordance with (a) (ii) above shall be adjusted by the consumer price index movement, in accordance with section H above;

"(d) The local currency amount calculated under this special measure will be paid only with effect from the first day of the quarter following submission of proof of residence, or in cases where proof of residence had been submitted earlier, as from the first day of the quarter following the date of introduction of the new local currency unit, with retroactive effect only as from 1 January 1996;

"(e) Should the new local currency unit depreciate against the United States dollar by 50 per cent or more from its value on the date of introduction, beneficiaries covered by the special measure may exercise an option, within two years as from the date of implementation of the special measure, 1 January 1997, to withdraw their proof of residence and to have their pension benefits paid thereafter solely on the United States dollar track. Such reversion to the dollar track alone would be effective as from the first quarter following receipt by the Fund secretariat of the beneficiary's withdrawal of proof of residence."

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FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 114

PROGRAMME PLANNING

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Syed Rafiqul Alom (Bangladesh), on the basis of informal consultations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/234 of 21 December 1982, 38/227 of 20 December 1983, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 45/253 of 21 December 1990, 47/214 of 23 December 1992 and 48/218 (section I.B) of 23 December 1993 and its decision 50/452 of 22 December 1995,

Having examined the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001,[1]

Having considered the views of the Main Committees of the General Assembly on the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001,

Having also considered the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its thirty-sixth session,[2]

Having further considered the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1994-1995[3] and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal

[1] A/51/6 (Perspective) and A/51/6 (Progs. 1-25).

[2] A/51/16 (Parts I and II).

[3] A/51/128 and Add.1.

Oversight Services on strengthening the role of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives,[4]

I

MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1998-2001

1. Adopts the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001, together with the relevant recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the additional conclusions and recommendations contained in the annex to the present resolution, taking into account the views of the Main Committees of the General Assembly;

2. Reaffirms that the medium-term plan, as adopted, is the principal policy directive of the United Nations and shall serve as a framework for the formulation of the biennial programme budgets;

3. Stresses the importance of ensuring that the medium-term plan reflects all mandated programmes and activities and decides to include reference in the approved version of the plan to the legislative mandates relevant for the work to be carried out;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to propose revisions to the regulations and rules governing programme planning, the programme aspects of the budget, the monitoring of implementation and the methods of evaluation, taking into account the views expressed by Member States thereon, and to submit such revisions to the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-eighth session;

5. Reaffirms the role of Committee for Programme and Coordination as the main subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for planning, programming and coordination;

6. Emphasizes the importance of the consultative process with Member States;

7. Also emphasizes the importance of the contribution of the sectoral, regional and central intergovernmental bodies, in particular the Main Committees of the General Assembly, in reviewing and improving the quality of the plan and its revisions;

8. Regrets that some programmes of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001 were not reviewed by the relevant intergovernmental bodies;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to take all appropriate measures, including ad hoc measures, and to submit proposals to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session so as to enable the Main Committees of the General Assembly as well as the sectoral, functional and regional bodies effectively to review the relevant portions of the medium-term plan or its revisions with a

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[4] A/51/88.

view to facilitating their consideration by the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Fifth Committee;

II

STRUCTURE

1. Takes note with concern of the fact that the Secretary-General in presenting the programme structure of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001 did not take fully into account the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the views and opinions expressed by Member States, as requested in decision 50/452;

2. Decides to approve the programme structure of the medium-term plan, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. Also decides to maintain disarmament as an independent programme in the medium-term plan;

4. Further decides to review in depth the structure of the medium-term plan, through the Committee for Programme and Coordination, at its fifty-fifth session;

III

PRIORITIES

1. Stresses the importance of priority-setting as an integral part of the planning, programming and budgeting process;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to present to the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-eighth session recommendations on priority-setting within the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001;

3. Also requests the Secretary-General to implement the plan in accordance with the overall agreed priorities as contained in the annex to the present resolution;

IV

PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE REPORT

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1994-1995;[3]

2. Endorses the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination[2] on the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1994-1995;

V

OTHER CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION

1. Endorses the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-sixth session that have not otherwise been approved by the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

2. Notes with concern the low rate of implementation of the self-evaluation of the programmes, as reflected in paragraph 269 of the report of the Board of Auditors.

ANNEX

Conclusions and recommendations on programmes and subprogrammes of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001

Introduction and priorities

1. The medium-term plan is a translation of legislative mandates into programmes. Its objectives and strategies are derived from the policy orientations and goals set by the intergovernmental organs. In this respect, the medium-term plan constitutes the principal policy directive of the United Nations.

2. In response to the need to address efficiently and effectively persistent problems, as well as to respond to emerging trends and challenges of the future, the Organization will, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, give priority to the following areas of work during the implementation of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001:

(a) Maintenance of international peace and security;

[(b) Promotion of sustainable development of developing countries, including countries with economies in transition;

Alternatives:

(i) Group of 77 and China: Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

(ii) United States of America: Promotion of economic growth and sustainable development;

(iii) European Union: Promotion of sustained economic growth in the context of sustainable development;

Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 5 (A/51/5), vol. I, chap. II.

(c) Development of Africa;

(d) Promotion of human rights;

(e) Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts;

(f) Promotion of justice and international law;

(g) Disarmament;

(h) Drug control, crime prevention, as well as combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

Programme 1. Political affairs

1. Paragraph 1.1:

(a) Approves the proposal contained in subparagraph 46 (a) of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination;

(b) Add the following at the end of the paragraph:

"The programme also includes the promotion of a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the question of Palestine in accordance with all relevant United Nations resolutions."

2. Paragraph 1.3:

(a) Approves the proposal contained in subparagraph 46 (b) of the CPC report;

(b) In the third line, replace the word "recent" by the word "relevant" and insert the word "including" before "resolution 47/120 A".

3. Subparagraph 1.4 (b):

Approves the proposal contained in subparagraph 46 (c) of the CPC report.

4. Subparagraph 1.4 (d):

Approves the proposal contained in subparagraph 46 (d) of the CPC report.

5. Subparagraph 1.4 (h):

(a) Approves the proposal contained in subparagraph 46 (e) of the CPC report;

(b) Add the following at the end of the subparagraph:

"as well as assistance to and cooperation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People in the implementation of its mandate".

6. Paragraph 1.5:

Approves the proposal contained in subparagraph 46 (f) of the CPC report.

7. Paragraph 1.6:

Approves the proposal contained in subparagraph 46 (g) of the CPC report.

8. Paragraph 1.7:

Approves the proposal contained in subparagraph 46 (h) of the CPC report.

9. Paragraph 1.8:

Approves the proposal contained in subparagraph 46 (i) of the CPC report.

10. Paragraph 1.9:

Approves the proposal contained in subparagraph 46 (j) of the CPC report.

11. Paragraph 1.10:

Replace the first sentence with the following:

"In implementing the subprogramme, the Department will strive in particular to reinforce the Organization's capacity for early warning and good offices, and for non-military measures to prevent disputes from escalating into conflicts, as well as for resolving those which have erupted, while fully respecting the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Member States and for non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State, as well as the principle of consent which is an essential element for the success of such efforts."

12. Paragraph 1.11:

Approves the proposals contained in subparagraph 46 (l) of the CPC report.

13. Paragraph 1.12:

Replace the last sentence with the following:

"Contact with relevant regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other private and academic research institutes, without compromising the impartiality of the United Nations, will also be

maintained as part of this subprogramme to assist the Secretary-General in his political contacts with Member States."

14. Paragraph 1.13:

Replace the texts of paragraphs 1.13-1.18 by the following:

"1.13. The mandate for the programme on disarmament stems from the Charter of the United Nations and from the aims and purposes proclaimed by the General Assembly. The implementation of this programme should be guided by the priorities established in the relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions. The Centre for Disarmament Affairs is responsible for implementing this programme.

"1.14. The first objective of this programme is to provide organizational and substantive secretariat support to multilateral bodies entrusted with deliberation and/or negotiations on disarmament issues, including the meeting of States Parties and other international meetings related to multilateral disarmament agreements.

"1.15. The second objective is to follow and assess current and future trends in the field of disarmament and international security in order to assist Member States, and to enable the Secretary-General also to assist them, in their search for agreement. Apart from substantive issues involved in the deliberative and/or negotiating process, this activity should address the challenges arising from tne implementation of the relevant General Assembly resolutions as well as relevant treaties.

"1.16. The third objective will be to support and promote regional disarmament efforts and initiatives using approaches freely among the States of the region and taking into account the legitimate requirements of States for self-defence and specific characteristics of each region. Regional solutions will be more vigorously pursued as regional conflicts increasingly pose a threat to peace and security. Regional dialogue on crucial disarmament and security issues will be advanced through, inter alia, the organization of conferences.

"1.17. The fourth objective consists of providing impartial, factual information on the disarmament efforts of the United Nations to Member States, parliamentarians, research and academic institutions, and specialized non-governmental organizations through the disarmament information programme and by providing full access of Member States to all relevant databases, including on disarmament. This would include as appropriate, organizing open-ended conferences, seminars and workshops for informal exchanges of views on arms control, disarmament and international security issues. The disarmament fellowship programme will continue to be pursued with the primary objective of promoting further the disarmament expertise of Member States, particularly in the developing countries. Member States will be assisted in addressing specific disarmament concerns through the provision of training and advisory services.

"1.18. The fifth objective would be to continue to inform the public on an objective and updated basis of the United Nations disarmament activities. In this context, the three regional centres for peace and disarmament established in Nepal, Peru and Togo, should be utilized. These centres should address the important security problems in their respective regions and subregions in a balanced manner.

"1.19. This programme is expected to enable Member States to conduct deliberations and negotiations on disarmament issues in a smooth and efficient manner, facilitate the task of the Secretary-General in the conduct of his relations with Member States on disarmament matters; contribute to an integrated approach to issues relating to the maintenance of peace and security; and facilitate exchange of ideas between governmental and non-governmental sectors with a view to promoting a better understanding of United Nations endeavours in the field of disarmament."

15. Paragraph 1.19:

Approves the proposal contained in subparagraph 46 (v) of the CPC report, with the following modification:

Insert the word "relevant" before the words "decisions of the Security Council".

16. Paragraph 1.21:

Approves the proposal contained in subparagraph 46 (w) of the CPC report.

17. Paragraph 1.30:

Replace the text of paragraph 1.30 with the following:

"The objectives of the subprogramme are:

"(a) Promoting the decolonization process in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions of the General Assembly for the 17 remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories;

"(b) Strengthening the dissemination of information on decolonization in order to mobilize world opinion and ensuring the provision by the specialized agencies and institutions associated with the United Nations of assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

"2. The Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples will continue to examine the application of the Declaration and to seek suitable means for its immediate and full implementation in all Territories that have not yet exercised their rights in accordance with the Charter and relevant resolutions of the General Assembly. It will formulate specific proposals to this effect, examine the full compliance with the Declaration and other resolutions, formulate specific proposals for the elimination of the remaining manifestations of

colonialism and report thereon to the General Assembly, and enlist worldwide support for decolonization. The Special Committee [illegible] to dispatch visiting missions periodically to colonial [illegible], in consultation with the administering Powers, so as to enable the Special Committee to obtain first-hand information on conditions in the Territories; examine the views, expressed orally or [illegible] of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and also the views of [illegible] representatives of non-governmental organizations and individuals with knowledge of conditions in those Territories; and assist the General Assembly in making arrangements, in cooperation with the administering Powers, to secure a United Nations presence in the Non-Self-Governing Territories to observe or supervise the final stages of the process of decolonization.

"5. The Department of Political Affairs will continue to assist the Special Committee in the implementation of its mandate, as well as the General Assembly, in connection with issues under this subprogramme, as appropriate. To that end, the Department will:

"(a) Provide substantive servicing to the Special Committee and its visiting and other missions, as well as to the General Assembly when they review issues relating to decolonization;

"(b) Undertake research, analytical studies and reports on conditions in the Territories;

"(c) Provide assistance to the Special Committee in the preparation of its reports to the General Assembly;

"(d) Collect, review and disseminate basic material, studies and articles relating to decolonization;

"(e) Promote in cooperation with the Department of Public Information a publicity campaign on decolonization. Subject to the relevant decisions by the Special Committee, this will entail organizing panel discussions and seminars, producing and disseminating publications, organizing panel discussions and seminars, organizing exhibits, coordinating international activities aimed at the elimination of colonialism, including liaison with international organizations and individuals concerned with the problems of decolonization;

"(f) Promote flows of assistance from specialized agencies and institutions associated with the United Nations to the people in the Non-Self-Governing Territories."

18. Paragraph 1.31:

Replace paragraph 1.31 with the following:

"The General Assembly Affairs Division will provide the required substantive services and prepare reports of the Trusteeship Council if it should meet, in accordance with its rules of procedure."

...

19. Paragraph 1.33:

In the last line insert the word "inalienable" before the word "rights".

20. Paragraph 1.34:

(a) Approves the proposal contained in subparagraph 46 (z) of the CPC report;

(b) Replace the second sentence with the following:

"The Division for Palestinian Rights, which works in consultation with and under the guidance of the Committee, is responsible for providing secretariat services in support of this subprogramme."

21. Paragraph 1.35:

(a) Approves the proposal contained in subparagraph 46 (aa) of the CPC report;

(b) Replace the second sentence with the following:

"The Middle East peace process gave rise to renewed hopes for final settlement and opened new possibilities for supportive action by the United Nations."

22. Paragraph 1.36:

Replace the paragraph with the following:

"A third objective will be to heighten awareness of all aspects of the question of Palestine by providing forums to facilitate consideration of relevant issues and promote dialogue among parties concerned, Governments, United Nations bodies, non-governmental organizations and prominent personalities."

23. Paragraph 1.37:

Replace the paragraph with the following:

"A fourth objective will be to continue to provide information on the question of Palestine and continue the development of the United Nations computer-based information system on the question of Palestine (UNISPAL), in cooperation with relevant departments of the United Nations Secretariat, including the Department of Public Information, United Nations organs, organizations, bodies and specialized agencies, as well as non-governmental organizations."

Programme 3. Outer space affairs

Modify the title of the programme to read: "Peaceful uses of outer space".

Programme 4. Legal affairs

At the end of paragraph 4.9, add the following:

"The negotiation, where required, of status of forces agreements between the United Nations and the host Governments in connection with the activities of United Nations peacekeeping operations will also form an important objective of this subprogramme. In this regard, due consideration should be given to the obligation of United Nations officials in the conduct of their duties to observe fully both the laws and regulations of Member States and their duties and responsibilities to the Organization."

Programme 6. Africa: New Agenda for Development

1. In the fourth sentence of paragraph 6.2, replace the words "is to be" with "was".

2. Subparagraph 6.6 (a):

After the words "of the New Agenda" insert the words "in accordance with General Assembly resolution 51/32".

3. In subparagraph 6.8 (b):

After the words "in the New Agenda" insert the words "including those agreed upon at its mid-term review".

4. Subparagraph 6.10 (b):

After the words "on the New Agenda and", insert the words "the complementary role".

5. In paragraph 6.10, add the following subparagraph:

"(d) To promote and strengthen subregional and regional cooperation and integration through appropriate programmes, especially those identified in the mid-term review of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s."

Programme 7. Economic and social information and policy analysis

Paragraph 7.5:

At the end of paragraph 7.5, insert the following:

"and provide for improved coordination and cooperation between the United Nations and other relevant statistics-producing intergovernmental organizations."

Programme 8. Development support and management services

1. Replace paragraph 8.1 with the following:

'8.1 The general purpose of the programme, for which the Department for Development Support and Management Services has responsibility, is to support the efforts of the developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, to create and support a favourable climate for sustainable development. Thus, it should support, by means of technical cooperation, the activities of Member States aimed at strengthening their administrative and financial systems for development, consolidating institutional capabilities and infrastructures and implementing economic and social policies, according to their national development priorities, so as to contribute to sustainable development. To this end, the programme makes available to the developing countries and those with economies in transition, technical know-how and personnel specialized in the fields of public administration and finance, economic and social policy and planning, as well as the planning and management of natural and energy resources.'

2. In subprogramme 8.1, modify the title of the subprogramme to read:

'Public administration, finance and development'.

Programme 9. Trade and development

1. Paragraph 9.3:

(a) Replace the first sentence with the following:

'At the ninth session of UNCTAD, Governments recognized that development has evolved from a narrow focus on economic growth and capital accumulation to that of a multidimensional process, with the ultimate goal of bettering the human condition.'

(b) In the second sentence, insert the word 'growing' after the words 'To confront'.

2. Paragraph 9.5:

Replace the paragraph with the following:

'At its ninth session, UNCTAD, as part of the United Nations system and a contributor to its revitalization, has adopted far-reaching reforms, as embodied in the Midrand Declaration and 'A Partnership for Growth and Development', adopted by consensus at that session of the Conference, which encompasses its programme of work, its intergovernmental machinery and the reform of its secretariat, including its complementarity with the World Trade Organization, inter alia, by making its analysis of trade and

development available to the World Trade Organization and its cooperation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and relevant organizations. In consequence, UNCTAD is adapting itself to new economic and institutional modalities created by the process of globalization, the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations and agreements, and the creation of the World Trade Organization."

3. Add a new paragraph 9.5 (bis), as follows:

"UNCTAD will continue its role as the focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of development and interrelated issues in the areas of trade, finance, technology, investment and sustainable development."

4. Add a new paragraph 9.5 (ter), as follows:

"UNCTAD will deal with the problems of the least developed countries, sustainable development, poverty alleviation, the empowerment of women and economic cooperation among developing countries in a cross-cutting manner. While concentrating on its main activities and objectives, UNCTAD will pay due attention to the outcome of the global conferences."

5. Paragraph 9.14:

Add a new subparagraph (e) as follows:

"(e) To continue the work of UNCTAD, in accordance with its mandate, in assisting the Palestinian people to develop capacities for effective policy making and management pertaining to international trade, investment and related services. In this regard, UNCTAD should take into account the work done by other international organizations in order to enhance synergies, avoid duplication and coordinate related activities."

6. Paragraph 9.17, in the fourth line, after the words "developing countries" insert the words "for example land-locked and small island developing States".

7. Paragraph 9.21, after the words "Least Developed" insert the words "Land-locked and Island Developing".

8. Paragraph 9.22:

Add a new subparagraph (c) as follows:

"(c) To ensure the effective implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States particularly as it relates to the specific role assigned to UNCTAD in the areas of trade research and analysis."

9. Delete paragraph 9.23.

10. Replace the last sentence of paragraph 9.24 with the following:

"In accordance with the outcome of the ninth session of the Conference, in particular paragraphs 106 and 113 of 'A Partnership for Growth and Development', least developed countries will constitute a cross-cutting issue in the work of UNCTAD and the sectoral issues will be dealt with by the divisions of UNCTAD within their respective mandates."

Programme 11. Human settlements

The title of subprogramme 4 should read "Assessment, monitoring and information".

Programme 13. International drug control

In the first sentence of paragraph 13.1, delete the following words "... both of which have proliferated in the wake of the globalization of trade, travel and communications."

Programme 15. Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

1. At the end of paragraph 15.4, add:

"It will emphasize South-South cooperation, including the triangular modality of collaboration, to guide specific activities in achieving the objectives of the various subprogrammes."

2. Paragraph 15.6:

(a) In the second sentence, before the words "support from developed countries" insert the word "appropriate";

(b) In the same sentence, after the words "developed countries" insert the words "as well as from United Nations agencies, funds and programmes".

(c) In the same sentence, delete the words "that is, tripartite cooperation".

3. Paragraph 15.11:

Replace the second sentence with the following:

"The goal is to strengthen national capacities in achieving environmentally sound and sustainable development, focusing on the regional strategies and action programmes that have emerged from recent global conferences such as the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen and Habitat II in Istanbul."

4. Paragraph 15.11:

Add a new subparagraph (d) as follows:

"(d) To work with Governments and regional and international associations of local authorities, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, academic institutions and other regional or subregional groupings to develop regional human settlements plans of action, addressing priority issues specific to Asia and the Pacific region."

5. Paragraph 15.11:

Add a new subparagraph (g) as follows:

"(g) To promote opportunities that will enable developing countries to acquire environmentally friendly or sound technology to contribute to the strengthening of national capacities in achieving sustainable development."

Programme 19. Human rights

1. Paragraph 19.1:

Replace the last sentence with the following:

"The programme is based on the principles and recommendations of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action."

2. Paragraph 19.2:

(a) After the words "Commissioner for Human Rights", insert the words "who performs his functions under the direction and authority of the Secretary-General in accordance with resolution 48/141" and replace the words "to provide leadership" by the words "providing the leading role";

(b) Approves the proposal contained in subparagraph 199 (d) of the CPC report, with the following amendment:

Before the words "serious violations", elete the word "potential".

3. Paragraph 19.3:

(a) Approves the proposals in subparagraphs 199 (e) and (f) of the CPC report;

(b) Replace subparagraph (h) with the following:

"The adoption of more efficient methods within the United Nations to promote and protect human rights, including by preventing human rights violations throughout the world and removing obstacles to the full realization of human rights."

(c) Delete subparagraph (j) in its entirety;

(d) In subparagraph (m), replace "participation" with "contribution" and add "according to the legislative mandates in effect regarding these issues."

4. Delete paragraph 19.4.

5. Paragraph 19.5:

(a) Approves the proposals contained in subparagraph 199 (h) of the CPC report, with the following amendment:

After the words "the Right to Development" insert the words "and subsequent mandates" and delete the word "the" before the words "fundamental human rights".

(b) Amend the first two sentences of paragraph 19.5 as follows:

"The primary objectives of this subprogram will include promotion and protection of the right to development. In this regard, the objectives will be ... (to end of sentence)."

6. Delete the first sentence of paragraph 19.7.

7. Delete the first sentence of paragraph 19.8.

Programme 23. Public information

1. Insert a new paragraph 23.6 (bis), as follows:

"Some long-standing world problems persist and an informed understanding among the peoples of the world is still needed and remains one of the objectives of the Department. This is especially true in the areas of peace, security and disarmament; the question of Palestine; self-determination and decolonization; human rights, including racial discrimination; and development."

2. In paragraph 23.7, replace the word "major" by the word "first".

[Programme 24. Administrative services

In subparagraph 231 (h) of the CPC report, add the words "under regulations established by the General Assembly" at the end of the text recommended by CPC.]

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Fifty-first session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 116

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman
following informal consultations

First performance report

The General Assembly

1. Takes note of the first performance report of the Secretary-General[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

2. Reaffirms its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986;

3. Notes that, according to the first performance report, involuntary separations of staff have not been used in order to implement resolutions 50/231 and 50/232 of 7 June 1996;

4. Approves a net decrease of 5,580,200 dollars in the appropriations approved for the biennium 1996-1997, and a net decrease of 19,682,000 dollars in the estimates of income for the biennium 1996-1997, to be apportioned among expenditure and income sections as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General.

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[1] A/C.5/51/38.

[2] A/51/7/Add.6.

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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

International Seabed Authority

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman
following informal consultations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/263 of 28 July 1994, in which it decided to fund the administrative expenses of the International Seabed Authority until the end of the year following the year during which the Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 entered into force,

Also recalling its resolution 50/214 of 23 December 1995, in which it made provision for the budget for 1996 of the International Seabed Authority,

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the budget of the International Seabed Authority for 1997,[1]

1. Approves the recommendation thereon of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report;[2]

2. Requests the International Seabed Authority to take all necessary action to ensure that its budget for 1997 is implemented with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

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[1] A/C.5/51/21.

[2] A/51/7/Add.2.

3. Authorizes the Secretary-General to provide conference services for the meetings of the International Seabed Authority to be held from 17 to 28 March and from 18 to 29 August 1997 from the resources available under section 26E, Conference Services, of the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997;[1]

4. Decides to make a provision of $2,750,500 for the International Seabed Authority for its administrative expenses in 1997 under section 33, International Seabed Authority, of the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997;

5. Decides also that the provision for 1997 should be charged to the contingency fund.

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[1] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/50/6/Rev.1).